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With this amount of literary activity existing at a time when political struggles were so keen, we are not surprised that in the following centuries, which were comparatively calm, the production should have been much more vigorous. The most important factors are represented as being the mutual influence exerted by the Mohammedans and Normans upon each other when their relationship was changed from that of enemies to one of at least partial friendship; and, secondly, the commencement of a national feeling engendered by the struggle against the Lombards, which culminated at Salerno in 1077,—a struggle in which Normans, Italians, Greeks, and Saracens were united against a common enemy. This feeling is expressed in some verses by Alfanus, Bishop of Salerno, written about the same date. The alliance of the Norman dynasty with the Papal Court tended to increase this national feeling of unity, which had its literary outcome two or three decades later in Southern Italy in that outburst of Italian poetical composition which is definitely recognized as the origin of Italian poetry, so far, at least, as it has been possible to trace its origin.

It is with the literature of translation, however, that our author is concerned, and the amount he calls to our attention from this time on is surprising. All was accomplished under the Norman Princes, frequently under their personal supervision, or in the century after their downfall but while the influences of their rule still continued. Translations into Latin of Arabic works of Philosophy, Natural Science, Medicine, Mathematics, etc., were exceedingly numerous, while a large number, notably of Aristotle and Plato, were done from the Greek, all of them being works destined to exert influences of the most powerful kind upon the intellectual and moral development of Europe. Many were such as reached the rest of Europe through Southern Italy alone, and which, but for some such medium, would possibly never have been circulated at all. An enumeration of these translations would be impossible in the space at our command. They will be found clearly treated in detail by the author; and they show an amount of activity which will probably be a surprise to most readers, even to those who have long since recognised the im-

portance of Italy in the *Culturgeschichte* of Europe.

Among the prominent names of authors and translators, a considerable proportion of those occurring being Jewish, are Constantinus Africanus, who is credited with the translation of some seventy-six Greek and Arabic works into Latin and the production of several original treatises; Eugenius, Telesphorus, Doxopater, and Michael Scottus, (the author corrects the more usual spelling Scotus,) by whose assistance Frederick II. was enabled to send Latin translations of the works of Aristotle, with the commentaries of Avicenna and Ibn-Roschd, to the educational centres of the West, notably to Paris and Bologna. We are also told of Bartholomew of Messina, Faradasch ben Sâlim, Musa of Palermo, and John of Capua, a Jew who translated and "made accessible to Europe the oldest fables and legends of the Aryan peoples from out the valleys of the Indus and the Ganges."

These are but a few of the names which occur, and they represent but a small portion of the literary activity of the period. In the accomplishment of this work, Southern Italy may be regarded as fulfilling a mission, and at the close of this epoch we find that she had, in the words of the author, "handed on the torch of Greek intellectual life and helped it to kindle brightly anew;" he might have added, that the light thus disseminated was not from Greece alone.

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BRIEF MENTION.

It is with pleasure that we are able to announce the renewed publication of *Le Français*, which for six years was under the editorial management of Mr. Jules Lévy, of Boston. Prof. Jean de Peiffer, of the New England Conservatory, has now assumed the editorship and, after one year's intermission, the 7^e Année, no. 1, gives us the usual table of Contents representing practical articles that bear on the French Language and Literature. This publication is in French and appears nine times a year; price, \$2.00. Rédacteur, Jean de Peiffer, New England Conservatory, Franklin Square, Boston, Mass.

The next novel selected for translation in the excellent Balzac series, published by Roberts Brothers, is "Le Médecin de Campagne," which will be brought out during the winter. "Eugénie Grandet" is in its fifth edition. The entire series, from "Le Père Goriot" on, is a model of good translating and publishing.

William R. Jenkins, who has been providing excellent French literature for adults and students at very moderate prices, has just published, for the little ones, Mme. de Ségur's amusing story of "Les Malheurs de Sophie," which has become virtually a classic among the juveniles of France.

At a meeting of the American Philological Association held at New Haven in 1872, Prof. G. F. Comfort, of Syracuse University, presented a paper entitled: 'Should the Study of the Modern precede that of the Ancient Languages?' This essay which appeared originally in *Scribner's Monthly Magazine*, was republished last year (1886) under the title 'Modern Languages in Education' to which the author has added a few notes indicating the progress of opinion on this subject since the first publication of the article. C. W. Bardeen, of Syracuse, is the publisher; price, 25 cents.

In a recent number of the *Deutsche Akademische Zeitschrift*, we note the following announcement, which will be of interest to all German scholars:

Wilhelm Scherer's Nachlass birgt reichhaltiges litterarisches Material, welches denn auch im Buchhandel bei Scherer's Verleger (Weidmann'sche Buchhandlung) erscheinen wird. Zunächst sind Goethe-Studien angekündigt, welche Erich Schmidt herausgeben wird; ferner soll der 2. Band der Deutschen Altertumskunde, welcher von Karl Müllenhoff begonnen war, von Scherer und seinem Hilfsarbeiter Dr. Otto Pniower abgeschlossen wurde, herauskommen,—ein Werk schmerzlicher Erinnerung, weil über ihm zwei grosse Germanisten gestorben sind. In connection with Scherer's Goethe-Studien it may be well to note that the first anniversary of the foundation of the "Goethe-Gesellschaft" was celebrated last year in Germany under most auspicious prospects. Its membership already

had risen to eighteen hundred, seventeen of whom reside in the United States. Before us we have a letter describing the festivities as highly impressive and successful. After an excellent address by Prof. H. Grimm on "Goethe im Dienste unserer Zeit," Erich Schmidt, the director of the "Goethe Archiv," gave an interesting report about his work, his discoveries of unpublished poems, letters, etc. Among the latter is Byron's letter: "from a foreigner to the man who has been hailed by Germany, the great Goethe. The Goethe-Jahrbuch, which has become the organ of the society, will bring all newly discovered material in its future issues. It is worthy of further note that an independent Goethe society has recently been founded in England, counting, according to the last reports, one hundred and twenty members.

Dr. Daniel G. Brinton, Prof. of American Archaeology and Linguistics in the University of Pennsylvania, recently read before the the American Philosophical Society an interesting monograph on 'The Conception of Love in Some American Languages.' Classifying the Conceptions of Love as revealed in the languages under discussion, the writer finds their original modes of expression, are as follows:

1. Inarticulate cries of Emotion. [Cree, Maya, Qqichua].
2. Assertions of Sameness and Similarity, [Cree, Nahuatl, Maya].
3. Assertions of a wish, desire or longing, [Cree, Cakchiquel, Qqichua, Tupi].

The author adds: "A most instructive fact is that these same notions are those which underlie the majority of the words for love in the great Aryan family of Languages. They thus reveal the parallel paths which the human mind everywhere pursued in giving articulate expression to the passions and emotions of the soul."

Auf der am 8.—13. august 1886, zu Stockholm abgehaltenen nordischen philologenversammlung stellte docent Lundell aus Upsala in der pädagogischen sektion folgende thesen auf:

1. dem neusprachlichen unterricht ist nicht die buchsprache sondern die lebendige sprache

zu grunde zu legen, es ist also mit texten in phonetischer umschrift zu beginnen;

2. übersetzung in die fremde sprache hat künftig als unnötig (schädlich) wegzufallen, übersetzung aus der fremden sprache ist einzuschränken, an stelle beider vielmehr freie reproduction des gelesenen textes zu üben;

3. schon der erste anfangsunterricht muss von zusammenhängenden texten ausgehen, nicht von einzelnen sätzen;

4. die grammatik darf der lektüre nicht vor- ausgehen, sondern muss derselben folgen.

Nach längerer und lebhafter debatte gelangten die punkte 1, 3 und 4 mit grosser mehrheit zur annahme, bezüglich des punktes 2 wurde auf eine abstimmung verzichtet.

Sämtliche vier thesen aber bilden das programm des gegenwärtig zufolge eines aufrufs von Lundell—Western—Jespersen, in der constituierung begriffenen vereins "Quousque Tandem, skandinavischer verein für einen verbesserten sprachunterricht."

Zu these 1 schreibt (unter dem 25 september) Paul Passy, präsident der "Association phonétique" und von der französischen regierung zum stockholmer philologentage abgesandt, wie folgt:

"Seit 4 Jahren habe ich das englische nie anders als vermittelt einer phonetischen umschrift gelehrt und den besten erfolg damit gehabt. Hierzu ist ausdrücklich zu bemerken, dass der übergang zur gewöhnlichen orthographie, welchen ich nach 18 monaten eintreten lasse, gar keine schwierigkeiten verursacht: ich brauche dieselben überhaupt nicht zu lehren, die schüler lernen sie von selbst."

mitgetheilt von H. KLINGHARDT.

PERSONAL.

Prof. T. W. Hunt (Princeton) will publish (A. C. Armstrong & Co.) in March, a treatise on English Prose and Prose Writers in the hope of thereby supplying for the most advanced instruction an aid to the study of the development of our vernacular prose style. The Leading sections of the work will be entitled: I. Representative Prose Periods; II. Representative Prose Forms; III. Representative Prose Writers, and Prose Style.

T. F. Crane, Professor of Romance Languages in Cornell University, has just published (G. P. Putman's Sons, N. Y.) an interesting text-book entitled *Le Romantisme Français*, which constitutes No II. of the Series of *French Classics for American Students*. A special review of this work will be given in an early issue of the NOTES.

No. I. of this series, *Tableaux de la Révolution Française*, by the same author, appeared in 1885.

M. Camille Chabaneau, chargé de cours à la faculté des lettres de Montpellier, France, received last spring, from the Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, le prix La Grange for his works on French and Provençal philology and especially for the three following: 1. Publication of the French roman de saint F'anouel in the *Revue des langues romanes*; 2. Notice on the origin and establishment of the Jeux Floraux in the new edition of the *Histoire générale de Languedoc*; 3. The publication in Provençal of the biographies of the Troubadours, in the same work.

M. Chabaneau has just been made the recipient of further honor from this body by his election to fill the vacant place among the National Correspondents of the Academy.

OBITUARY.

Toward the beginning of December, 1886, M. Natalis de Wailly, one of the most renowned French scholars of to-day, died in Paris. Born in 1805, he was membre de l'Institut, le doyen des membres de l'Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, to which he was elected in 1841 and, since 1854, conservateur des manuscrits in the National Library. He was a frequent contributor to the *Mémoires* of the Academy, to the *Bibliothèque de l'École des Chartes* and to the *Journal des Savants*. Among his works that are of special interest and importance for Romance scholars, may be mentioned the following: *Éléments de paléographie* (1838, 2 vols. in 4to), *Examen Critique de la vie de Saint Louis par Geoffroy de Beaulieu* (1844), *Histoire de Saint Louis par Joinville en texte rapproché du langage moderne* (1865), *Mémoire sur la langue de Joinville* (1868), *Mémoire sur le Romant ou Chronique en langue vulgaire dont Joinville a reproduit plusieurs passages* (1875), *La Conquête de Constantinople de Ville-Hardouin*.